



MARVEL
COMICS
GROUP **12¢**

RAWHIDE

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

IND.

39
APR.

KID

IS THIS
THE KID'S
FINAL
DEFEAT??

SEE WHAT HAPPENS
TO THE KID WHEN
"THE
APE
STRIKES!"



**RAW-
HIDE
KID**

"the

APE STRIKES!



THIS LOOKS
LIKE A GOOD
TOWN FOR ME
TO HOLE UP IN
FOR A SPELL,
NIGHTWIND!
NICE AND QUIET
AND
PEACEFUL!



**A
BOOK-
LENGTH
MARVEL
BLOCK-BUSTER!**

WRITTEN BY.....**STAN LEE**
ILLUSTRATED BY...**DICK AYERS**
LETTERED BY....**ART SIMKE**

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HAVEN'T A CHANCE WITHOUT MY GUN! MAYBE IF I CAN ROLL OUT OF THE WAY-- IF I CAN JUST THINK OF SOMETHIN'--



SUDDENLY, JUST AS THE KID'S FLIGHT SEEMS HOPELESS, A SOFT, LOW WHISTLE PIERCES THE NIGHT AIR, AND...



IT'S A SIGNAL OF SOME SORT!! IT SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE, BUT THE GORILLA UNDERSTOOD! HE'S PICKING ME UP--



-- CARRYING ME INTO A BUILDING! NO SENSE STRUGGLING-- I'VE GOT TO LEARN WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT!



AHHH, YOU FOUND WHAT I SENT YOU FOR! GOOD! GOOD! BRING HIM IN!



SILENTLY-- SILENTLY!! NO ONE MUST SUSPECT THAT I SENT YOU OUT IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT TO FIND ME A HUMAN GUINEA PIG!



THAT'S IT, MY PET! INTO THE LABORATORY WITH HIM-- PUT HIM ON THE OPERATING TABLE!



NOW I'LL FASTEN HIM SECURELY, TO MAKE SURE HE CANNOT ESCAPE!



THE GORILLA'S MASTER IS A SCIENTIST OF SOME SORT! HE SENT THE APE OUT TO FIND SOMEONE TO USE IN AN EXPERIMENT-- BUT WHY???



JUST THEN...

FATHER, WHAT ARE YOU DOING? WHO IS THAT MAN? WHY IS HE STRAPPED TO THE TABLE??

VIRGINIA!! EVEN THOUGH YOU ARE MY DAUGHTER, I'VE ORDERED YOU NEVER TO INTERRUPT MY WORK! I'M MERELY CONDUCTING A LITTLE EXPERIMENT, THAT'S ALL! NOW PLEASE LEAVE, MY DEAR!



OH, FATHER-- WHY WON'T YOU GIVE UP YOUR WORK WITH THE GORILLA?? IT'S SO-- TERRIFYING!!



I CAN'T STOP NOW! NOT WHEN I'M SO NEAR MY GOAL! SOON I'LL MAKE THIS GIANT APE AS INTELLIGENT AS ANY HUMAN!!

NOW GO, VIRGINIA! THE YOUNG MAN WON'T BE HARMED --BUT I HAVE WORK TO DO!

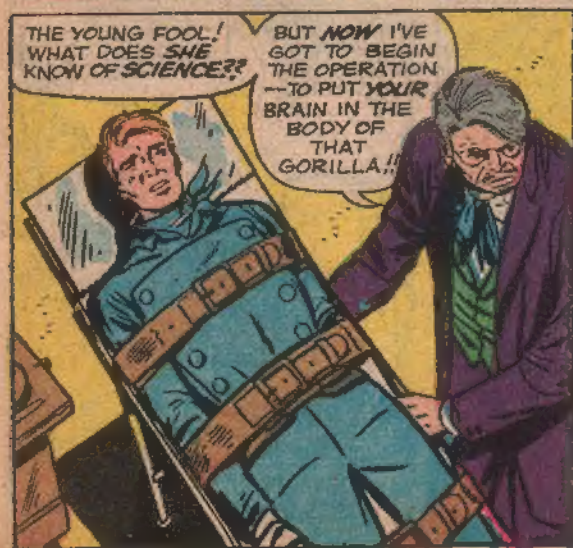


WHEN YOU NEXT SEE THAT BEAST, HE WILL BE AS SMART AS ANYONE YOU KNOW! AND I WILL BE THE MOST FAMOUS SCIENTIST OF ALL TIME!

OH, IF ONLY YOU HAD NEVER SEEN HIM IN THAT TRAVELING CARNIVAL--

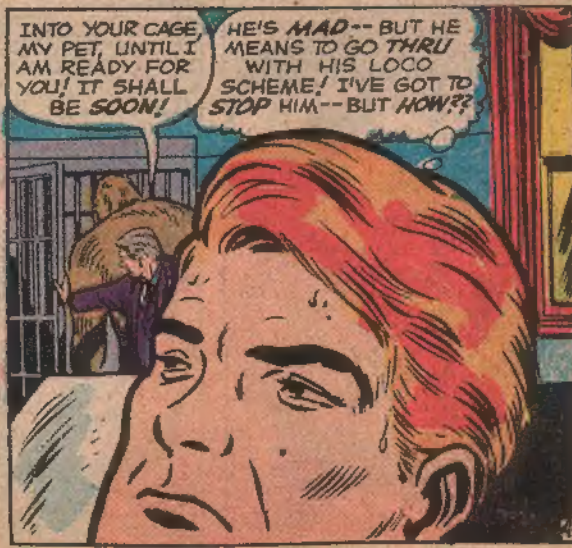


I'LL GO, FATHER! BUT I'LL BE BACK TOMORROW--AND IF THAT BOY ISN'T HERE, I'LL TELL THE SHERIFF ALL ABOUT YOUR EXPERIMENTS!



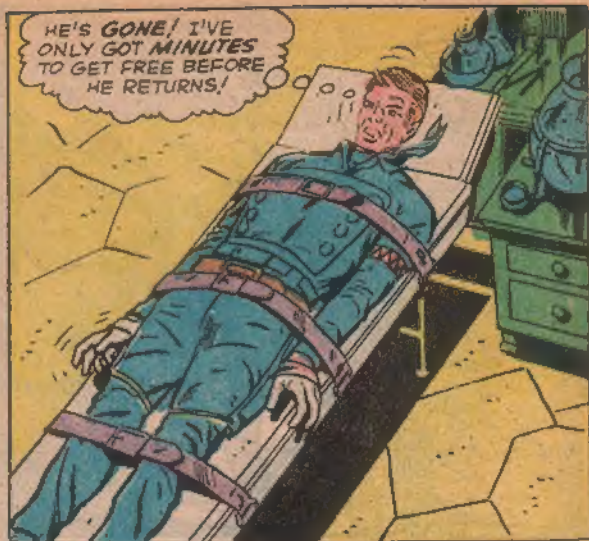
THE YOUNG FOOL! WHAT DOES SHE KNOW OF SCIENCE??

BUT NOW I'VE GOT TO BEGIN THE OPERATION --TO PUT YOUR BRAIN IN THE BODY OF THAT GORILLA!!



INTO YOUR CAGE MY PET, UNTIL I AM READY FOR YOU! IT SHALL BE SOON!

HE'S MAD-- BUT HE MEANS TO GO THRU WITH HIS LOCO SCHEME! I'VE GOT TO STOP HIM--BUT HOW??



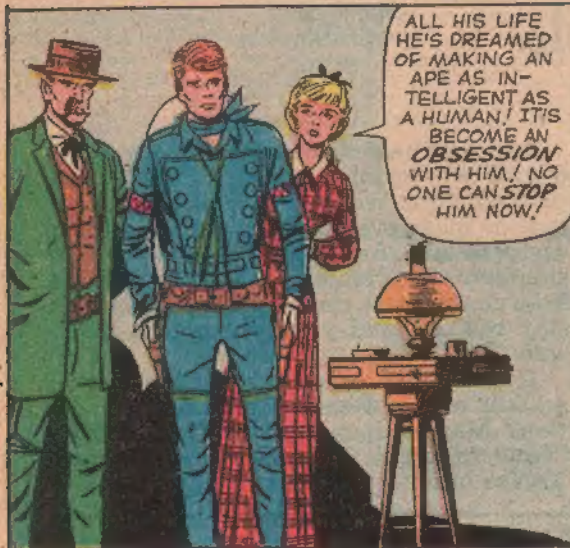


I **KNEW** THE WHOLE STORY WAS NONSENSE! I WAS A FOOL TO COME HERE-- ON A WILD GOOSE CHASE AFTER A TRAINED GORILLA! YOU'RE LUCKY I DON'T RUN YOU IN FOR WASTIN' MY TIME!

I WISH THE STORY WAS NONSENSE, SHERIFF, BUT IT **ISN'T!**

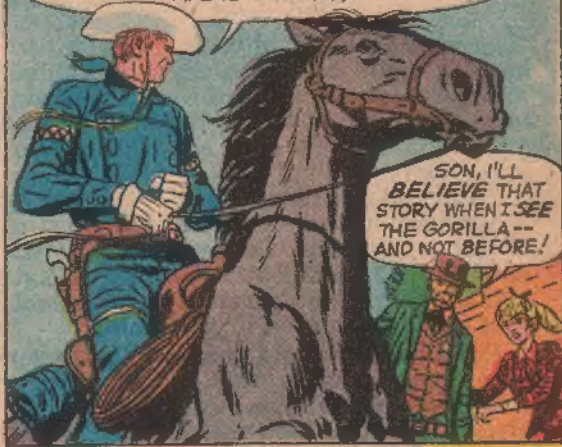
I DON'T CARE IF YOU BELIEVE ME OR NOT! BUT I'M **WARNIN'** YOU-- THERE'S A MADMAN ROAMING THE COUNTRYSIDE WITH A DEADLY APE-- AND YOU'VE GOT TO **FIND THEM**-- BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

HE'S TELLING THE TRUTH, SHERIFF! MY FATHER DOESN'T REALIZE THE HARM HE MIGHT CAUSE!



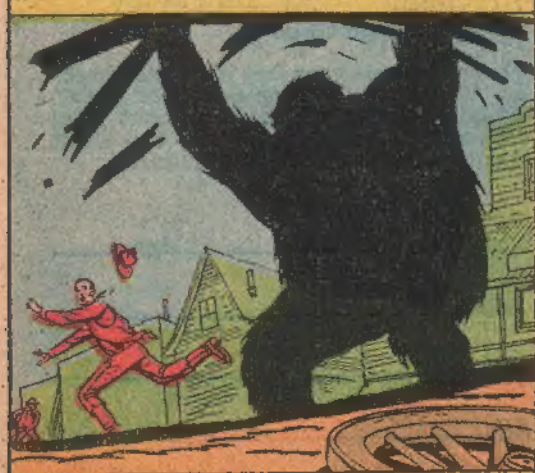
ALL HIS LIFE HE'S DREAMED OF MAKING AN APE AS INTELLIGENT AS A HUMAN! IT'S BECOME AN **OBSESSION** WITH HIM! NO ONE CAN STOP HIM NOW!

AND SO... I'M GONNA SEARCH THE HILLS FOR THEM, SHERIFF! I SUGGEST YOU TELL FOLKS HEREABOUTS TO LOCK THEIR DOORS AND KEEP THEIR GUNS NEAR AT HAND UNTIL THAT APE IS CAUGHT!



SON, I'LL BELIEVE THAT STORY WHEN I SEE THE GORILLA-- AND NOT BEFORE!

BUT, BEFORE LONG, THE AMAZED SHERIFF GETS HIS WISH! FOR, SUDDENLY, ONE DAY... WITHOUT WARNING... A GIANT MENACE ATTACKS THE TOWN...



THE VERY SIGHT OF HIM IS SO FRIGHTENING THAT PEOPLE FLEE IN PANIC-- ALL THOUGHT OF STANDING THEIR GROUND, OF FIRING THEIR WEAPONS AT HIM, DRIVEN FROM THEIR MINDS BY **FEAR!**



MOVING WITH UNBELIEVABLE SPEED, DEMONSTRATING INDESCRIBABLE STRENGTH, THE MIGHTY ANTHROPOID TEARS THRU THE TOWN LIKE A RUNAWAY TORNADO...

RUN--RUN-- BEFORE IT CATCHES US!! NO ONE HAS A CHANCE AGAINST--THAT!

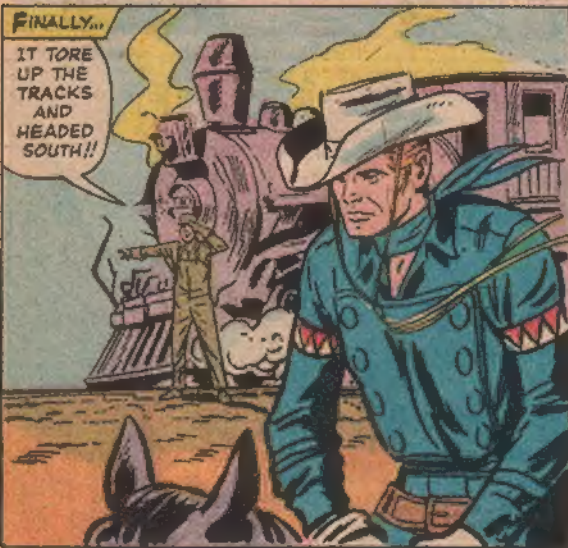


BUT, THE MOST SURPRISING THING ABOUT THE GORILLA IS THE FACT THAT IT DOESN'T HARM ANYONE! IT SEEMS TO BE ANXIOUS TO PROVE ITS STRENGTH, ITS POWER--AND NOTHING MORE--



FINALLY...

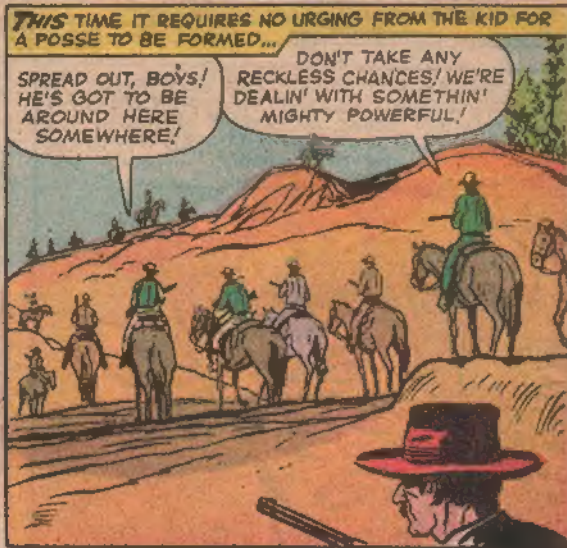
IT TORE UP THE TRACKS AND HEADED SOUTH!!



THIS TIME IT REQUIRES NO URGING FROM THE KID FOR A POSSE TO BE FORMED...

SPREAD OUT, BOYS! HE'S GOT TO BE AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE!

DON'T TAKE ANY RECKLESS CHANCES! WE'RE DEALIN' WITH SOMETHIN' MIGHTY POWERFUL!



AND THEN, JUST WHEN HE IS LEAST EXPECTED...

IT-- IT'S HIM!

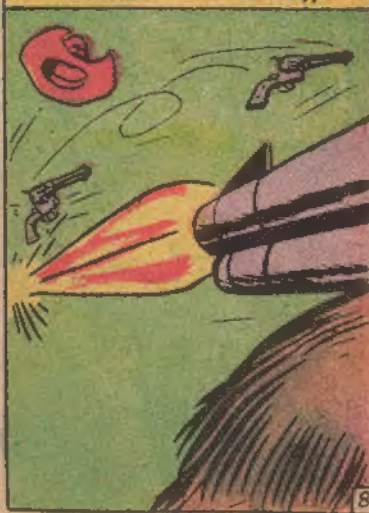
B-BUT HE'S HOLDIN' A GUN-- IT JUST CAN'T BE! IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

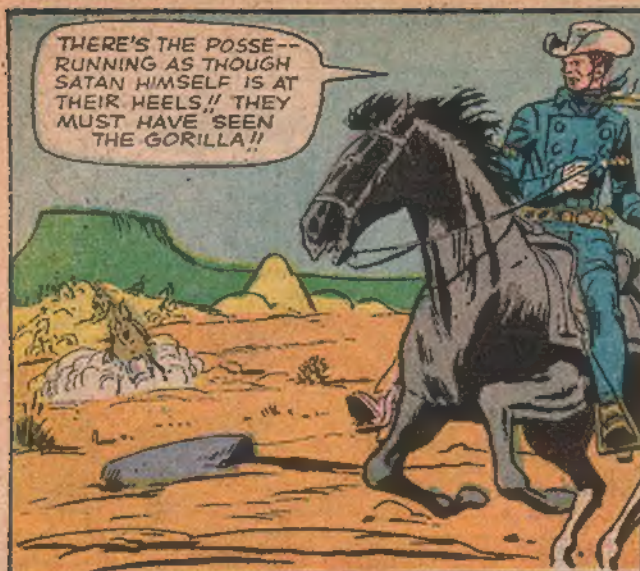


DON'T LOSE YOUR NERVE, BOYS! HE MUST HAVE JUST PICKED IT UP SOMEWHERE-- HE WON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH IT! CLOSE IN ON HIM--SLOWLY--STEADY NOW--!!



BUT THEN, INCREDIBLE AS IT SEEMS, THE GORILLA USES HIS RIFLE LIKE A SHARPSHOOTER, DISARMING THE LAWMAN WITH TWO ACCURATE SHOTS!!





THERE'S THE POSSE--
RUNNING AS THOUGH
SATAN HIMSELF IS AT
THEIR HEELS!! THEY
MUST HAVE SEEN
THE GORILLA!!



KID! WE NEED
YOUR HELP!
THE GORILLA'S
ON THE
LOOSE!

CAN KARLBAD'S
EXPERIMENT HAVE
SUCCEEDED??



THE POSSE'S RIDING OFF, FOR REINFORCE-
MENTS! I DON'T BLAME THEM FOR BEING
SHAKEN! BUT SOMETIMES ONE MAN CAN
DO MORE THAN A CROWD--AND I'M HOPIN'
I'M THAT MAN!



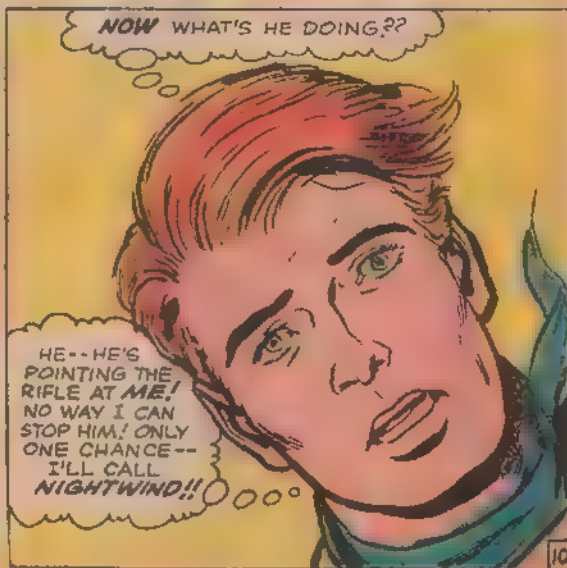
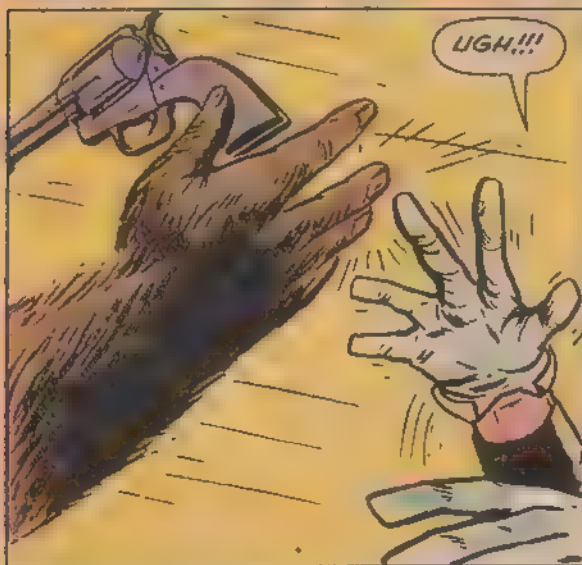
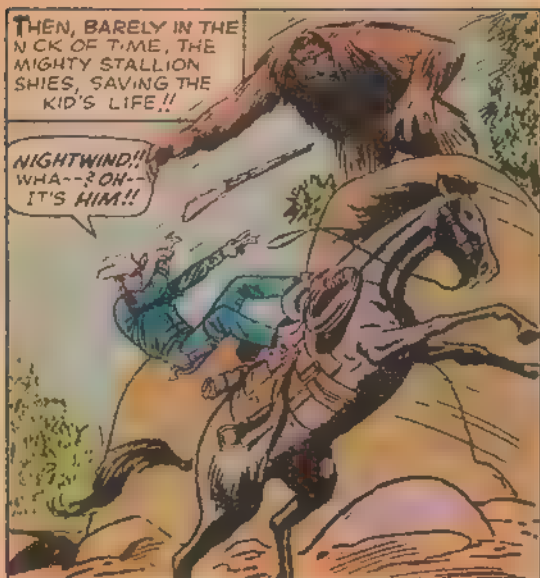
IF THAT APE'S AROUND
HERE HE'LL BE SURE TO
HEAR US GALLOPIN' UP!
SO I'D BETTER EXPECT
AN ATTACK ANY SECOND
NOW!

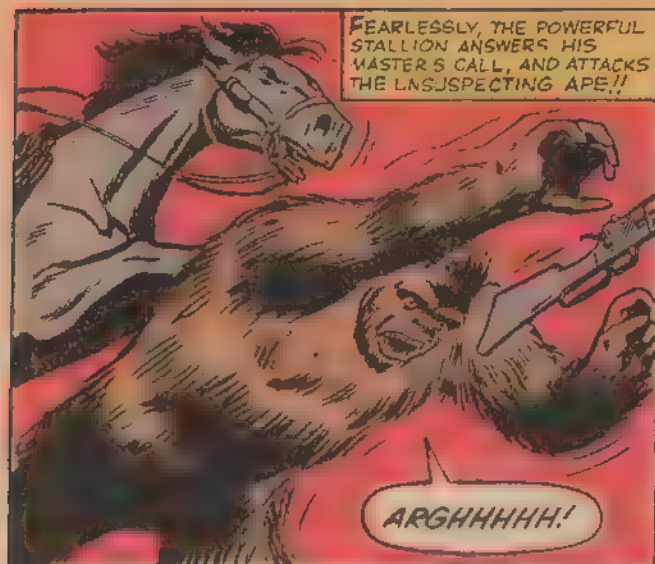


NIGHTWIND IS
TREMBLING! HE'S
NERVOUS! HE MUST
HAVE CAUGHT THE
GORILLA'S SCENT!!
HE MUST BE VERY
NEAR!!



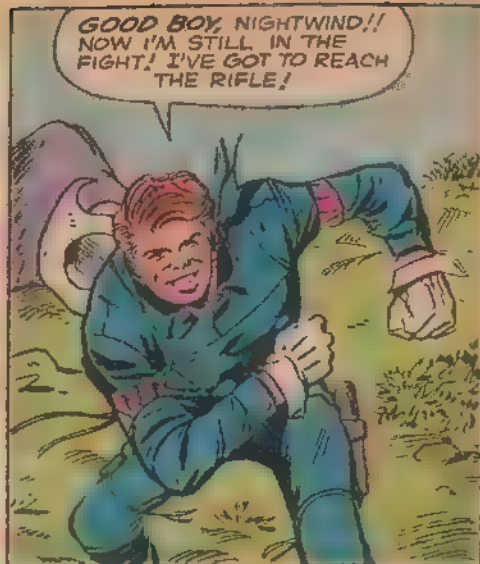
BUT,
BEING A
JUNGLE
BEAST,
HE CAN
PROBABLY
MOVE SO
SILENTLY
THAT I
WON'T
KNOW
WHERE
HE IS
UNTIL
IT'S TOO
LATE!!





FEARLESSLY, THE POWERFUL STALLION ANSWERS HIS MASTER'S CALL, AND ATTACKS THE UNSUSPECTING APE!!

ARGHHHHH!



GOOD BOY, NIGHTWIND!! NOW I'M STILL IN THE FIGHT! I'VE GOT TO REACH THE RIFLE!



THAT'S IT, BOY!! KEEP THRASHING WITH THOSE MIGHTY HOOVES OF YOURS! EVEN AN APE HAS NO DEFENSE AGAINST THEM!

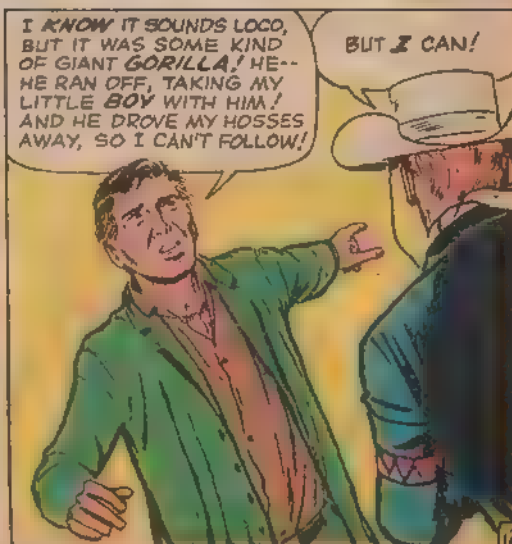
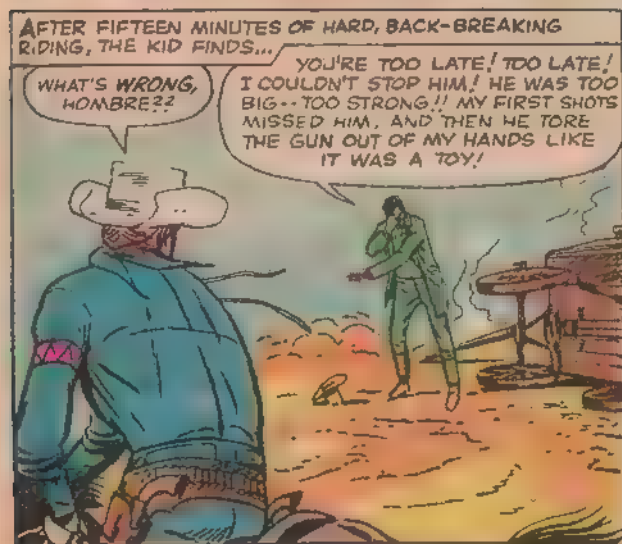
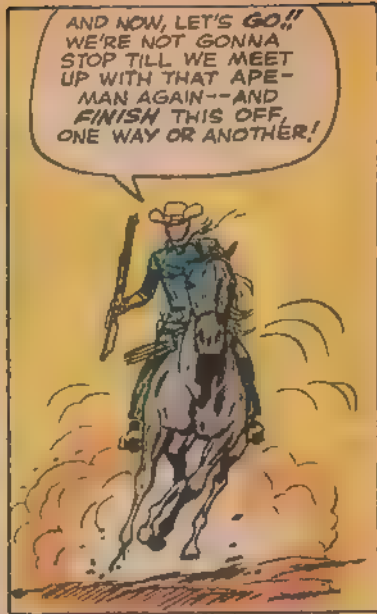


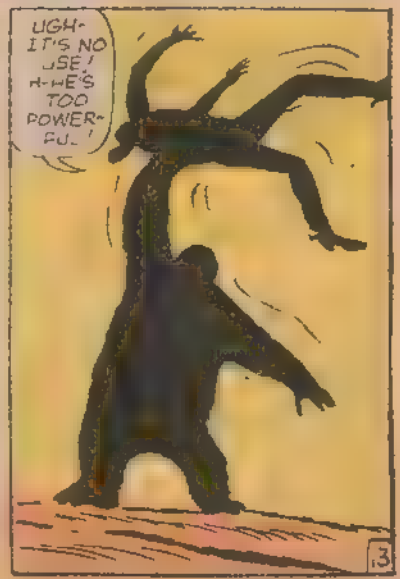
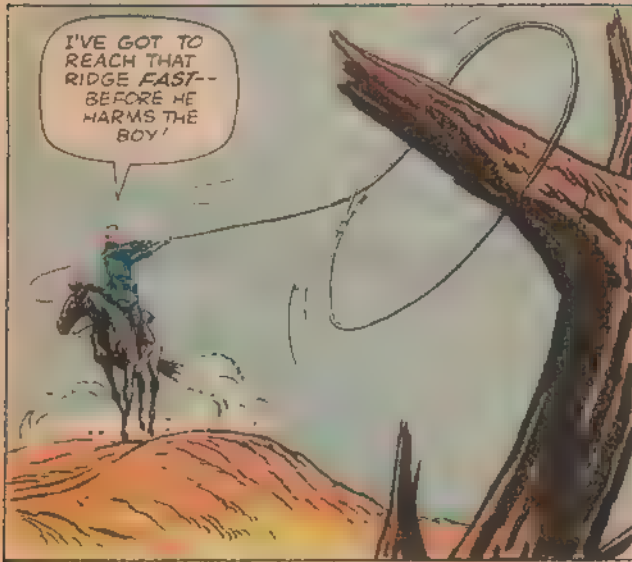
AND NOW, THINGS ARE GONNA BE A MITE DIFFERENT AROUND HERE!

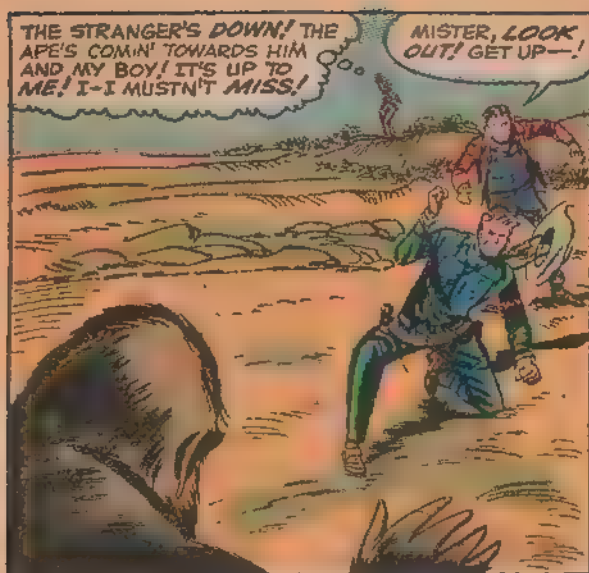
BUT AGAIN THE KID'S STRANGE FOE REACTS LIKE A HUMAN! SEEING THAT HIS ENEMY NOW HAS THE R.F.L.E, HE STEPS BACK AWAY FROM NIGHTWIND, AND THEN...



HE MOVES LIKE A STREAK! HE'S GETTING AWAY -- HE'LL BE HIDDEN IN THE TREES IN ANOTHER SECOND!

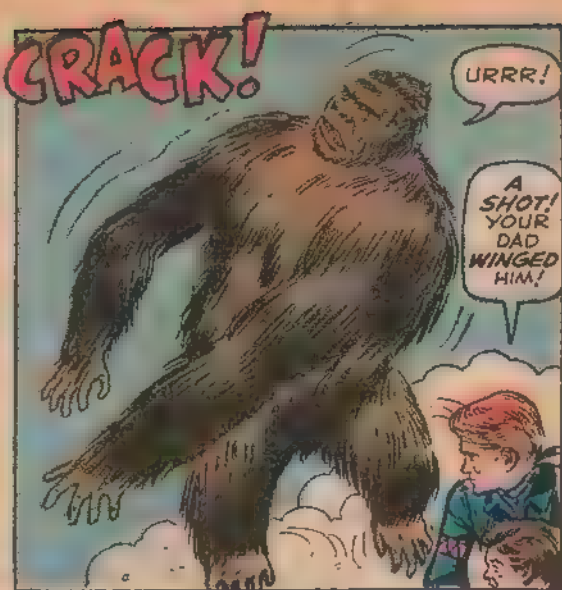






THE STRANGER'S DOWN! THE APE'S COMIN' TOWARDS HIM AND MY BOY! IT'S UP TO ME! I-I MUSTN'T MISS!

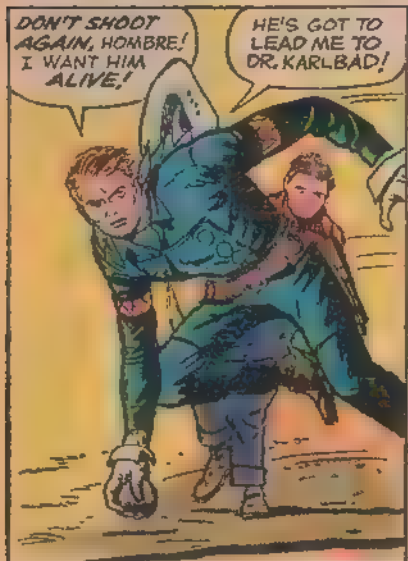
MISTER, LOOK OUT! GET UP—!



CRACK!

URRR!

A SHOT! YOUR DAD WINGED HIM!

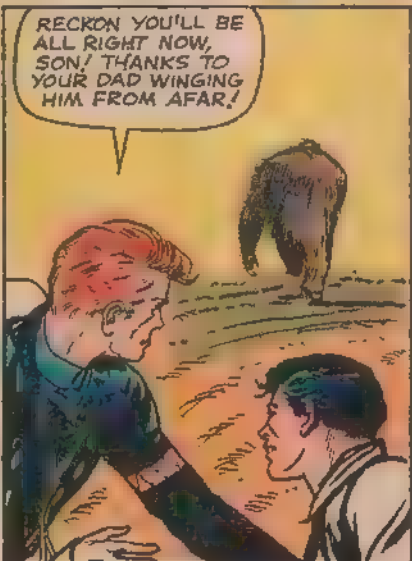


DON'T SHOOT AGAIN, HOMBRE! I WANT HIM ALIVE!

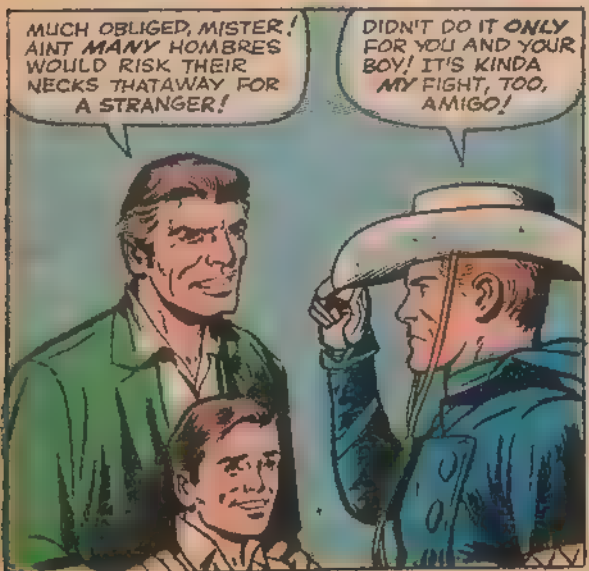
HE'S GOT TO LEAD ME TO DR. KARLBAD!



THERE! IN HIS WOUNDED CONDITION, THAT'LL DRIVE HIM OFF!

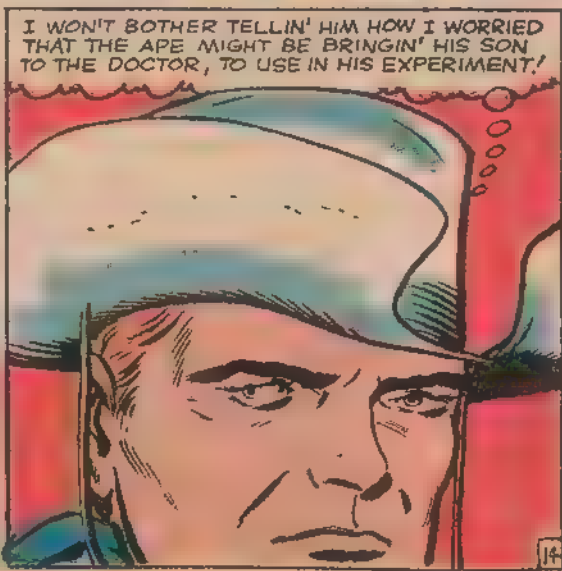


RECKON YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT NOW, SON! THANKS TO YOUR DAD WINGING HIM FROM AFAR!

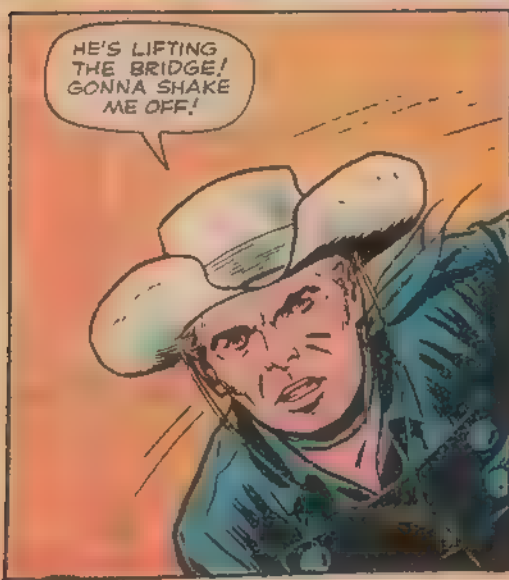
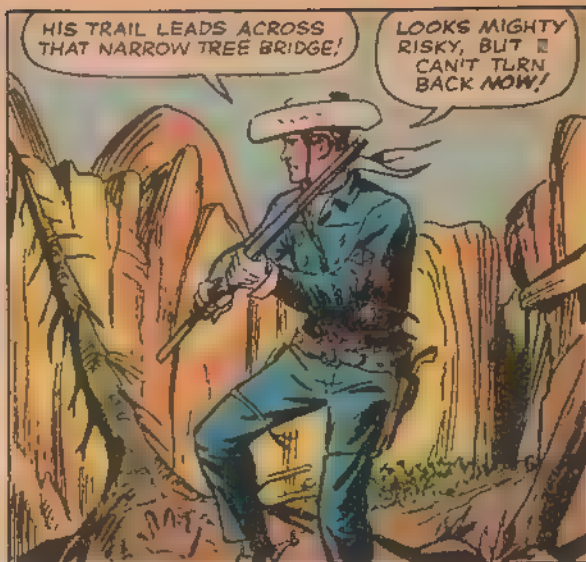
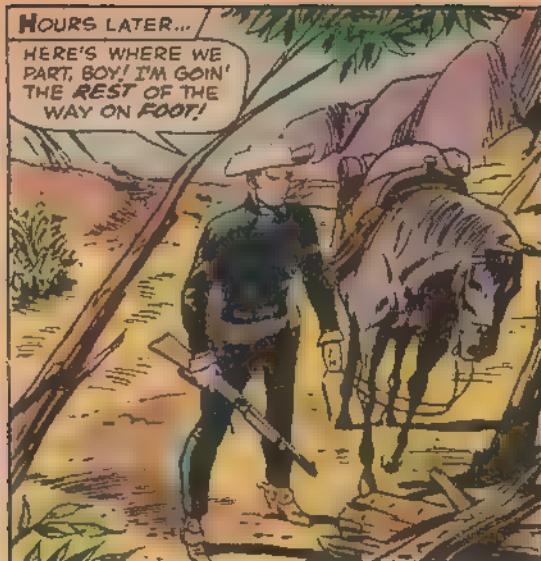


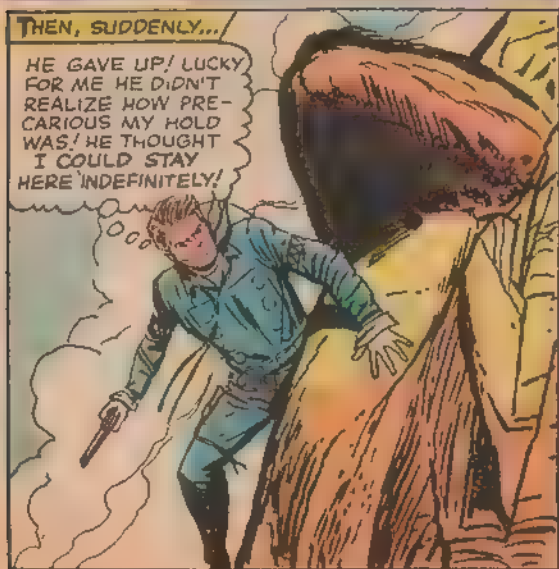
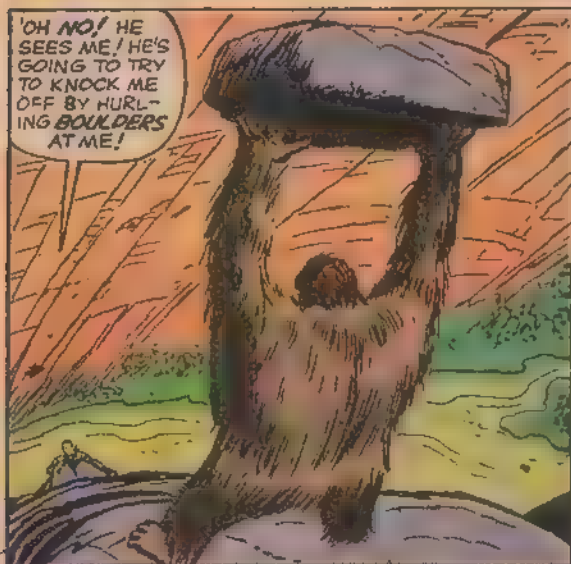
MUCH OBLIGED, MISTER! AINT MANY HOMBRES WOULD RISK THEIR NECKS THATAWAY FOR A STRANGER!

DIDN'T DO IT ONLY FOR YOU AND YOUR BOY! IT'S KINDA MY FIGHT, TOO, AMIGO!



I WON'T BOTHER TELLIN' HIM HOW I WORRIED THAT THE APE MIGHT BE BRINGIN' HIS SON TO THE DOCTOR, TO USE IN HIS EXPERIMENT!





HOURS LATER, AFTER A LONG, RELENTLESS PURSUIT...

LOOKS LIKE I'VE FOUND WHAT I'M AFTER! THAT CAVE AHEAD -- WITH THE WAGON OUTSIDE...



HE'S RUNNING INSIDE, BUT THAT WON'T HELP 'IM! THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY OUT-- AND HE'LL HAVE TO GET PAST ME FIRST!



I KNOW YOU'RE IN THERE, DOC! COME ON OUT, HOMBRE! WE'VE GOT A DATE WITH THE SHERIFF!

NO! YOU'LL NEVER TAKE ME ALIVE! I'M STILL THE GREATEST BRAIN IN THE WEST! I'LL DEFEAT YOU YET!



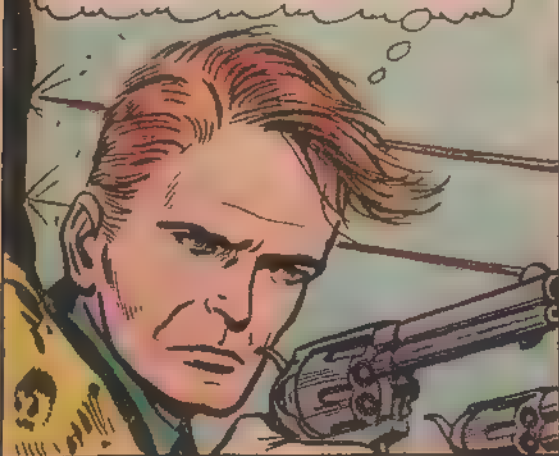
HAN! YOU DIDN'T KNOW I HAD A WINCHESTER HIDDEN IN MY CAVE, DID YOU?!!

WHEW! THAT WAS TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT!

I WONDER WHAT THE GORILLA IS DOING ALL THIS TIME?? WELL, RECKON I'LL FIND OUT SOON ENOUGH!

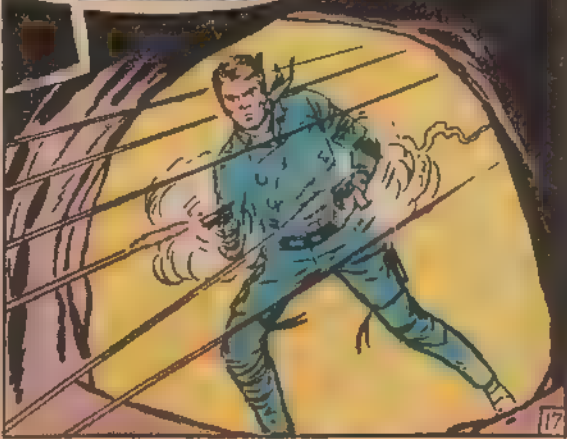


I SURE HATE TO DO THIS, MOSTLY ON ACCOUNT OF HIS DAUGHTER-- BUT I'VE GOT TO USE MY GUNS! THE DOC'S GONE BERSERK! HE'S TOO DANGEROUS FOR ME TO TAKE ANY MORE CHANCES WITH!



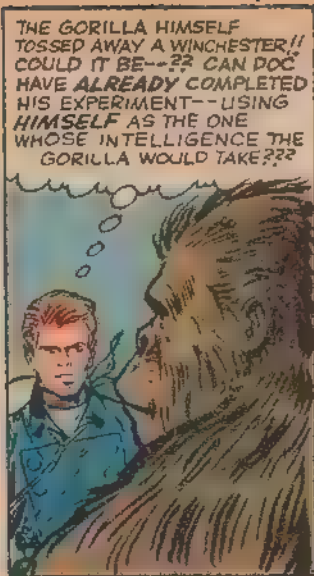
THIS IS IT, DOC! IF YOU WON'T GIVE UP, THERE'S NO OTHER WAY!

NO--NO! STOP SHOOTING! I--I CANT OUT-SHOOT YOU! I DON'T WANT TO DIE! I SURRENDER!

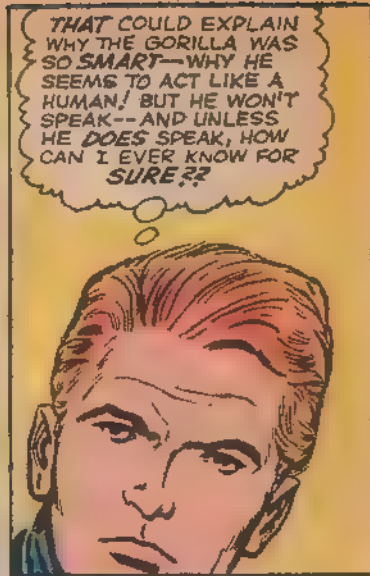




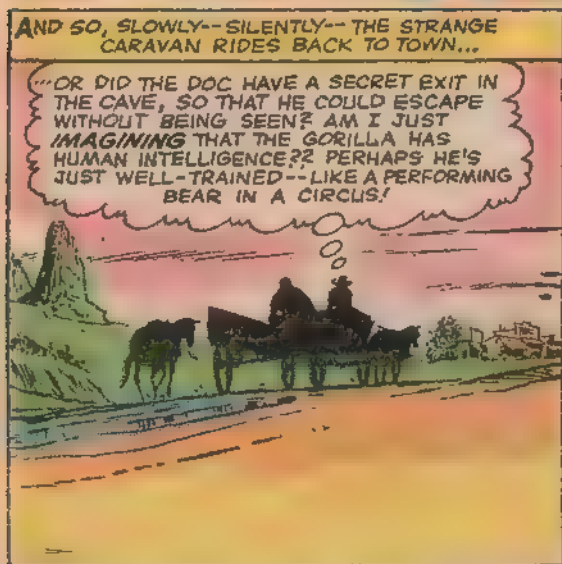
YOU!! B-BUT THE CAVE IS **EMPTY!**
WHERE'S DOC???



THE GORILLA HIMSELF
TOSSED AWAY A WINCHESTER!!
COULD IT BE---?? CAN DOC
HAVE **ALREADY** COMPLETED
HIS EXPERIMENT--USING
HIMSELF AS THE ONE
WHOSE INTELLIGENCE THE
GORILLA WOULD TAKE???

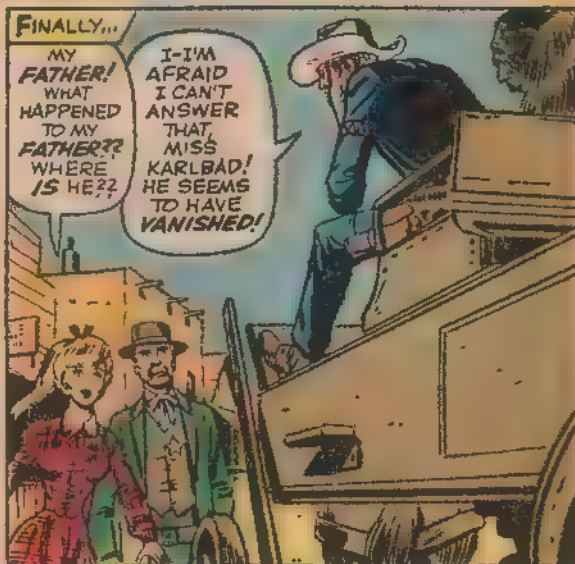


THAT COULD EXPLAIN
WHY THE GORILLA WAS
SO **SMART**--WHY HE
SEEMS TO ACT LIKE A
HUMAN! BUT HE WON'T
SPEAK--AND UNLESS
HE **DOES** SPEAK, HOW
CAN I EVER KNOW FOR
SURE??



AND SO, SLOWLY--SILENTLY--THE STRANGE
CARAVAN RIDES BACK TO TOWN...

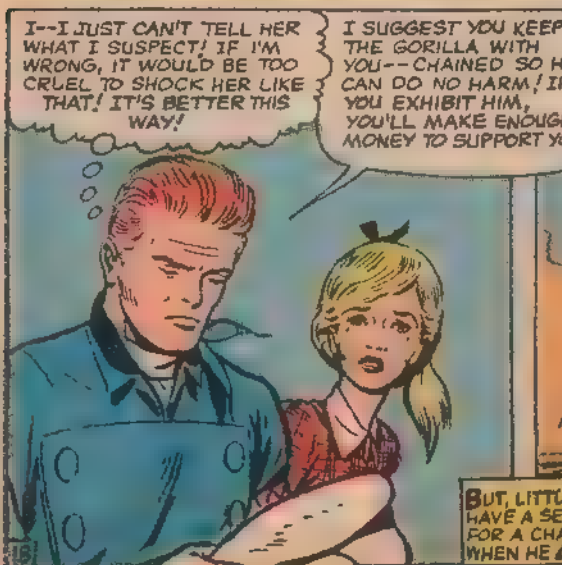
...OR DID THE DOC HAVE A SECRET EXIT IN
THE CAVE, SO THAT HE COULD ESCAPE
WITHOUT BEING SEEN? AM I JUST
IMAGINING THAT THE GORILLA HAS
HUMAN INTELLIGENCE?? PERHAPS HE'S
JUST WELL-TRAINED--LIKE A PERFORMING
BEAR IN A CIRCUS!



FINALLY...

MY
FATHER!
WHAT
HAPPENED
TO MY
FATHER??
WHERE
IS HE??

I-I'M
AFRAID
I CAN'T
ANSWER
THAT,
MISS
KARLBAD!
HE SEEMS
TO HAVE
VANISHED!

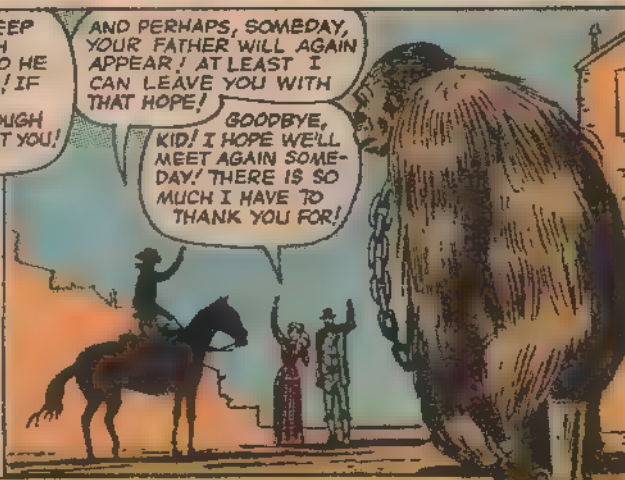


I--I JUST CAN'T TELL HER
WHAT I SUSPECT! IF I'M
WRONG, IT WOULD BE TOO
CRUEL TO SHOCK HER LIKE
THAT! IT'S BETTER THIS
WAY!

I SUGGEST YOU KEEP
THE GORILLA WITH
YOU--CHAINED SO HE
CAN DO NO HARM! IF
YOU EXHIBIT HIM,
YOU'LL MAKE ENOUGH
MONEY TO SUPPORT YOU!

AND PERHAPS, SOMEDAY,
YOUR FATHER WILL AGAIN
APPEAR! AT LEAST I
CAN LEAVE YOU WITH
THAT HOPE!

GOODBYE,
KID! I HOPE WE'LL
MEET AGAIN SOMEDAY!
THERE IS SO
MUCH I HAVE TO
THANK YOU FOR!



BUT, LITTLE DO THEY DREAM THAT DOCTOR KARLBAD **DID**
HAVE A SECRET EXIT FROM THE CAVE, AND IS HIDING NEARBY, WAITING
FOR A CHANCE TO FREE HIS TRAINED GORILLA AND STRIKE AGAIN! AND
WHEN HE **DOES**... BUT, THAT'S ANOTHER TALE FOR ANOTHER ISSUE!

the **FRIGHTENED MAN**

SAY, DURANGO---
IS IT *TRUE* THAT
YOU REALLY WON
MORE THAN FOUR-
TEEN GUNFIGHTS?

FOLKS SAY
YOU'RE READY
TO HAVE A
SHOOT-OUT
AT THE DROP
OF A HAT!

YOU'RE LOCO!! I NEVER
SHOT FOURTEEN
HOMBRES!-- IT WAS
CLOSER TO TWENTY-FOUR!
HAW HAW HAW!

I SURE WOULDN'T
WANNA TANGLE
WITH *THAT*
HOMBRE!

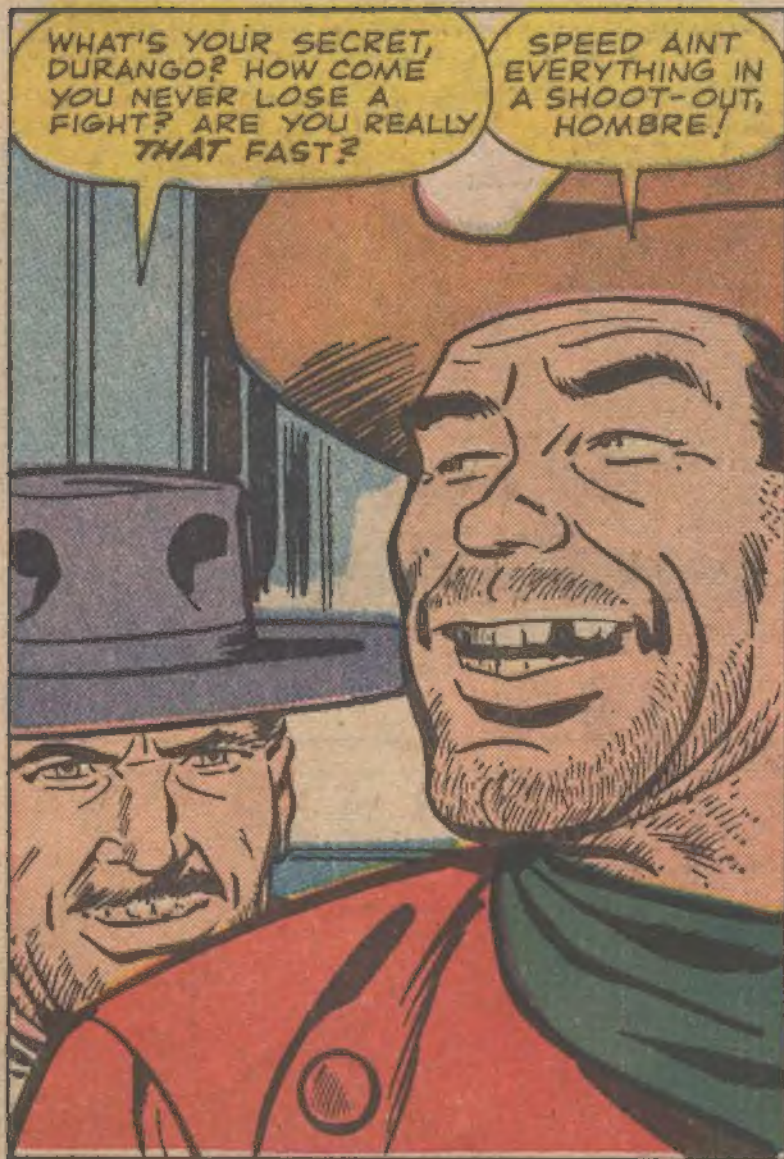
ME NEITHER!
NOBODY WHO
DOES LIVES
TO TELL
ABOUT IT!

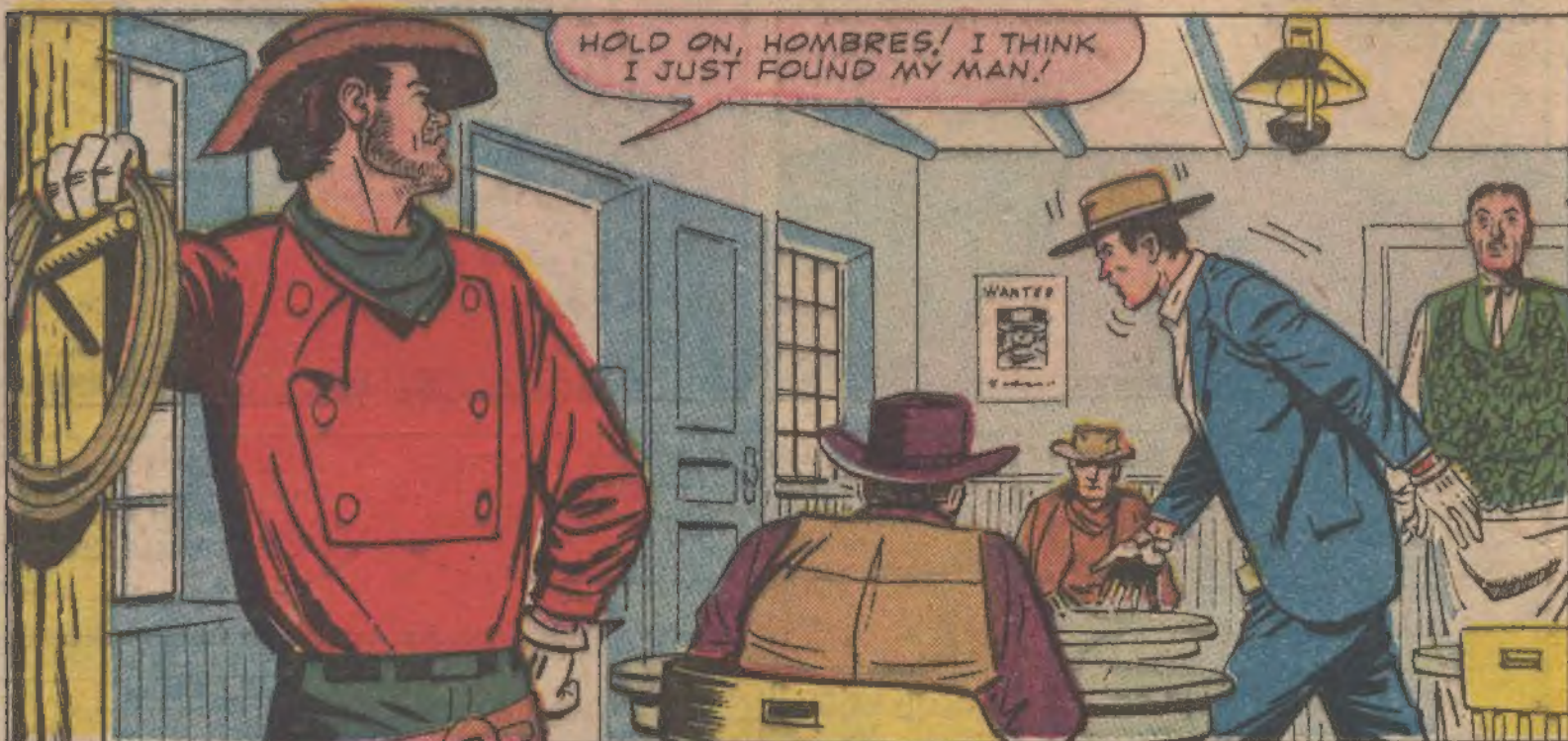


HIS NAME WAS DURANGO!
AND HE NEVER LOST A
GUNFIGHT--NOT UNTIL HE
MET--THE FRIGHTENED
MAN!

ANOTHER CLASSIC* RE-TOLD
BY MIGHTY MARVEL!
*FROM RAWHIDE KID#39

STORY BY..... STAN LEE
ART BY..... JACK KELLER
LETTERED BY.. ART SIMEK





CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE



HEAR THAT, BOYS? HE DON'T WANT ANY TROUBLE! NOW AINT THAT A LAUGH!

WHA-WHAT DO YOU MEAN??



I MEAN YOU'RE ASKIN' FOR A SHOOTOUT! YOU *INSULTED* ME BY TURNIN' YOUR BACK ON ME WHEN I WAS TALKIN'!

NO! I DIDN'T! HONEST, I DIDN'T!



DIDN'T HE INSULT ME, GENTS?

Y-YES! HE SURE DID!

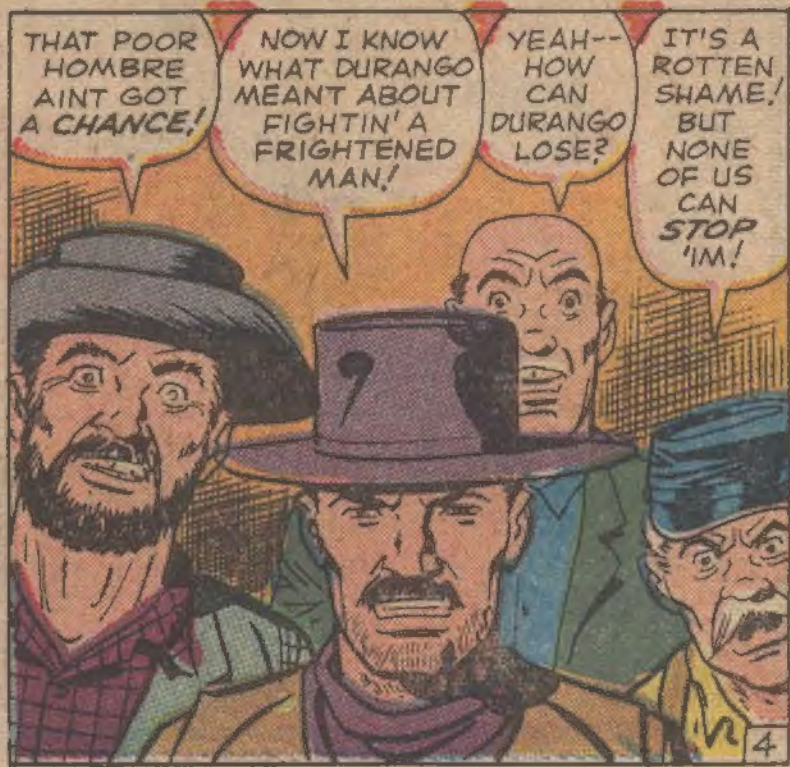
RECKON HE DID, DURANGO?

IF YOU SAY SO, DURANGO!



YOU HEARD 'EM, STRANGER! NOW SUPPOSE YOU STOP SHAKIN' LONG ENOUGH TO GO FOR YOUR GUN?!!

YOU MEAN IT, DON'T YOU? YOU'RE WILLIN' TO SHOOT ME, JUST TO SHOW HOW GOOD YOU ARE!



THAT POOR HOMBRE AINT GOT A CHANCE!

NOW I KNOW WHAT DURANGO MEANT ABOUT FIGHTIN' A FRIGHTENED MAN!

YEAH--HOW CAN DURANGO LOSE?

IT'S A ROTTEN SHAME! BUT NONE OF US CAN STOP 'IM!

AFTER I GUN YOU DOWN, I'LL HAVE TWENTY-FIVE WINS TO MY CREDIT! THAT'LL MAKE ME THE BIGGEST GUN-SLINGER IN THESE PARTS! SO--SLAP LEATHER!



MOVING SO FAST THAT THE HUMAN EYE COULD NEVER HOPE TO FOLLOW THE DRAW, A HAND DARTS TO A HOLSTER, WHIPPING OUT A BARKING COLT!!



BUT THE HAND IS NOT DURANGO'S! TO EVERYONE'S STUNNED SURPRISE, IT BELONGED TO THE FRIGHTENED STRANGER!



MY ARM--I'M FINISHED AS A GUN-SLINGER! I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO USE IT AGAIN!!

YOU MADE ONE MISTAKE, DURANGO! YOU NEVER ASKED ME WHY I WAS FRIGHTENED!!



AFTER I QUIT THE TEXAS RANGERS A FEW MONTHS AGO, I TOOK A VOW NEVER AGAIN TO KILL ANOTHER MAN, NO MATTER WHAT! I WAS JUST FRIGHTENED I MIGHT MISS YOUR ARM AND KILL YOU--THAT'S ALL!



NOTE: OUR LETTERS SECTION APPEARS ON THE NEXT PAGE...